

# PEC

**PECCANCY.** *n. f.* [from *peccant*.] Bad quality.  
Apply refrigerants without any preceding evacuation, because the disease took its original merely from the disaffection of the part, and not from the peccancy of the humours. *Wifem.*

**PECCANT.** *adj.* [peccant, Fr. *peccant*, Latin.]  
1. Guilty; criminal.  
From them I will not hide  
My judgments, how with mankind I proceed;  
As how with peccant angels late they saw. *Milton.*  
That such a peccant creature should disapprove and repent of every violation of the rules of just and honest, this right reason could not but infer. *South's Sermons.*  
2. Ill disposed; corrupt; bad; offensive to the body; injurious to health. It is chiefly used in medical writers.  
With laxatives preserve your body sound,  
And purge the peccant humours that abound. *Dryden.*  
Such as have the bile peccant or deficient are relieved by bitters, which are a sort of subsidiary gall. *Arbutnot.*  
3. Wrong; bad; deficient; unequal.  
Nor is the party cited bound to appear, if the citation be peccant in form or matter. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

**PECK.** *n. f.* [from *pocca*, or perhaps from *pat*, a vessel. *Skinner.*]  
1. The fourth part of a bushel.  
Burn our vessels, like a new  
Seal'd peck or bushel, for being true. *Hudibras.*  
which they cover with the ashes till rain flacks the lime, and then they spread them. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
He drove about his turnips in a cart;  
And from the same machine fold pecks of pease. *King.*  
2. Proverbially. [In low language.] A great deal.  
Her finger was so small, the ring  
Would not stay on which they did bring;  
It was too wide a peck;  
It look'd like the great collar just  
About our young colt's neck. *Suckling.*

**TO PECK.** *v. a.* [*becquer*, French; *picken*, Dutch.]  
1. To strike with the beak as a bird.  
2. To pick up food with the beak.  
She was his only joy, and he her pride,  
She, when he walk'd, went pecking by his side. *Dryden.*  
Can any thing be more surprising, than to consider Cicero observing, with a religious attention, after what manner the chickens pecked the grains of corn thrown them. *Addison.*  
3. To strike with any pointed instrument.  
With a pick-axe of iron about sixteen inches long, sharpened at the one end to peck, and flat headed at the other to drive little iron wedges to cleave rocks. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*  
4. To strike; to make blows.  
Two contrary factions, both inveterate enemies of our church, which they are perpetually pecking and striking at with the same malice. *South's Sermons.*  
They will make head against a common enemy, whereas mankind lie pecking at one another, till they are torn to pieces. *L'Estrange.*  
5. The following passage is perhaps more properly written to peck, to throw.  
Get up o' th' rail, I'll peck you o'er the pales else. *Shakesp.*

**PECKER.** *n. f.* [from *peck*.]  
1. One that pecks.  
2. A kind of bird: as, the wood-pecker.  
And Progne with her bosom stain'd in blood. *Dryden.*

**PECKLED.** *adj.* [corrupted from *speckled*.] Spotted; varied with spots.  
Some are peckled, some greenish. *Walton's Angler.*

**PECTINAL.** *n. f.* [from *pecten*, Lat. a comb.]  
There are other fishes whose eyes regard the heavens, as plain and cartilaginous fishes, as *pectinals*, or such as have their bones made laterally like a comb. *Brown.*

**PECTINATED.** *adj.* [from *pecten*.] Put one within another alternately. This seems to be the meaning.  
To fit cross leg'd or with our fingers *pectinated*, is accounted bad. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

**PECTINATION.** *n. f.* The state of being pectinated.  
The complication of *pectination* of the fingers was an hieroglyphic of impediment. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

**PECTORAL.** *adj.* [from *pectoralis*, Latin.] Belonging to the breast.  
Being troubled with a cough, *pectorals* were prescribed, and he was thereby relieved. *Wifeman.*

**PECTORAL.** *n. f.* [*pectorale*, Lat. *pectoralis*, Fr.] A breast plate.  
**PECUATE.** } *n. f.* [*peculatus*, Latin; *peculat*, Fr.] Robbery  
**PECULATION.** } of the publick; theft of publick money.  
**PECULATOR.** [Latin.] Robber of the publick.

**PECULIAR.** *adj.* [*peculiaris*, from *peculum*, Lat. *pecule*, Fr.]  
1. Appropriate; belonging to any one with exclusion of others.  
I agree with Sir William Temple, that the word humour is peculiar to our English tongue; but not that the thing itself is peculiar to the English, because the contrary may be found in many Spanish, Italian and French productions. *Swift.*  
2. Not common to other things.

# PED

The only sacred hymns they are that christianity hath peculiar unto itself, the other being songs too of praise and of thanksgiving, but songs wherewith as we serve God, so the Jews likewise. *Hooker, b. v. f. 39.*  
Space and duration being ideas that have something very abstruse and peculiar in their nature, the comparing them one with another may be of use for their illustration. *Locke.*  
3. Particular; single. To join *most* with peculiar, though found in *Dryden*, is improper.  
One peculiar nation to select  
From all the rest, of whom to be invok'd. *Milton.*  
I neither fear, nor will provoke the war;  
My fate is Juno's most peculiar care. *Dryden.*

**PECULIAR.** *n. f.*  
1. The property; the exclusive property.  
By tincture or reflection, they augment  
Their small peculiar. *Milt. Par. Lost.*  
Revenge is to absolutely the peculiar of heaven, that no consideration whatever can empower even the best men to assume the execution of it. *South's Sermons.*  
2. Something abscinded from the ordinary jurisdiction.  
Certain *peculiar*s there are, some appertaining to the dignities of the cathedral church at Exon. *Carew.*

**PECULIARITY.** *n. f.* [from *peculiar*.] Particularity; something found only in one.  
If an author possessed any distinguishing marks of style or peculiarity of thinking, there would remain in his least successful writings some few tokens whereby to discover him. *Swift.*

**PECULIARLY.** *adv.* [from *peculiar*.]  
1. Particularly; singly.  
That is peculiarly the effect of the sun's variation. *Wadsw.*  
2. In a manner not common to others.

**PECUNIARY.** *adj.* [*pecuniarius*, from *pecunia*, Lat. *pecuniare*, Fr.]  
1. Relating to money.  
Their impostures delude not only unto pecuniary defraudations, but the irreparable deceit of death. *Brown.*  
2. Consisting of money.  
Pain of infamy is a severer punishment upon ingenuous natures than a pecuniary mulct.  
The injured person might take a pecuniary mulct by way of atonement. *Brown.*

**PED.** *n. f.*  
1. A small packfaddle. A *ped* is much shorter than a pannel, and is raised before and behind, and serves for small burdens.  
A pannel and wanty, packfaddle and *ped*. *Tusser.*  
2. A basket; a hamper.  
A hark is a wicker *ped*, wherein they use to carry fish. *Spens.*

**PEDAGOGICAL.** *adj.* [from *pedagogue*.] Suited or belonging to a schoolmaster.

**PEDAGOGUE.** *n. f.* [*pedagogus*, Lat. *παιδαγωγός*; *παι*; and *γωγός*.] One who teaches boys; a schoolmaster; a pedant.  
Few *pedagogues* but curle the barren chair,  
Like him who hang'd himself for mere despair  
And poverty. *Dryden.*

**TO PEDAGOGUE.** *v. a.* [*παιδαγωγέω*, from the noun.] To teach with superciliousness.  
This may confine their younger files,  
Whom Dryden *pedagogues* at Will's;  
But never could be meant to tie  
Authentic wits, like you and I. *Prior.*

**PEDAGOGY.** *n. f.* [*παιδαγωγία*.] The mastership; discipline.  
In time the reason of men ripening to such a pitch, as to be above the pedagogy of Moses's rod] and the discipline of types, God thought fit to display the substance without the shadow. *South's Sermons.*

**PEDAL.** *adj.* [*pedalis*, Lat.] Belonging to a foot. *Diët.*

**PEDALS.** *n. f.* [*pedalis*, Lat. *pedales*, Fr.] The large pipes of an organ: so called because played upon and stooped with the foot. *Diët.*

**PEDANEUS.** *adj.* [*pedaneus*, Lat.] Going on foot. *Diët.*

**PEDANT.** *n. f.* [*pedant*, French.]  
1. A schoolmaster.  
A pedant that keeps a school i' th' church. *Shakesp.*  
The boy who scarce has paid his entrance down  
To his proud pedant, or declin'd a noun. *Dryden.*  
2. A man vain of low knowledge; a man awkwardly ostentatious of his literature.  
The pedant can hear nothing but in favour of the conceits  
he is amorous of. *Glanville.*  
The preface has so much of the pedant, and so little of the conversation of men in it, that I shall pass it over. *Addison.*  
In learning let a nymph delight,  
The pedant gets a mistress by't. *Swift.*

**PEDANTIC.** *adj.* [*pedantique*, Fr. from *pedant*.] Awkwardly ostentatious of learning.  
Mr. Cheeke had eloquence in the Latin and Greek tongues; but for other sufficiencies *pedantic* enough. *Hoyward.*  
When we see any thing in an old fatyrist, that looks forced and *pedantic*, we ought to consider how it appeared in the time the poet writ. *Addison.*  
The obscurity is brought over them by ignorance and age, made yet more obscure by their *pedantic* elucidators. *Felton.*  
A spirit

# PEE

A spirit of contradiction is to *pedantic* and hateful, that a man should watch against every instance of it. *Watts.*  
We now believe the Copernican system; yet we shall still use the popular terms of sun-rise and sun-set, and not introduce a new *pedantick* description of them from the motion of the earth. *Boutley's Sermons.*

**PEDANTICALLY.** *adv.* [from *pedantic*.] With awkward ostentation of literature.  
The earl of Roscommon has excellently rendered it; too faithfully is, indeed, *pedantically*; 'tis a faith like that, which proceeds from superstition. *Dryden.*

**PEDANTRY.** *n. f.* [*pedanterie*, Fr.] Awkward ostentation of needless learning.  
'Tis a practice that favours much of *pedantry*, a reserve of puerility we have not shaken off from school. *Brown.*  
Horace has enticed me into this *pedantry* of quotation. *Cowley.*  
Make us believe it, if you can: it is in Latin, if I may be allowed the *pedantry* of a quotation, *non persuadibus, stimulis perijugis*. *Addison's Freeholder.*  
From the universities the young nobility are sent for fear of contracting any airs of *pedantry* by a college education. *Swift.*

**TO PEDDLE.** *v. n.* To be busy about trifles. *Amf.* It is commonly written *piddle*: as, what *piddling* work is here.

**PEDERERO.** *n. f.* [*pedereros*, Spanish, from *pedras*, a stone with which they charged it.] A small cannon managed by a swivel. It is frequently written *paterero*.

**PEDISTAL.** *n. f.* [*pedestal*, Fr.] The lower member of a pillar; the basis of a statue.  
The poet bawls  
And shakes the statues and the *pedestals*. *Dryden.*  
In the centre of it was a grim idol; the forefront of the *pedestal* was curiously embossed with a triumph. *Addison.*  
So stiff, so mute! some statue you would swear  
Step from its *pedestal* to take the air. *Pope.*

**PEDISTRIUS.** *adj.* [*pedestris*, Latin.] Not winged; going on foot.  
Men conceive they never lie down, and enjoy not the position of rest, ordained unto all *pedestrian* animals. *Brown.*

**PEDICULAR.** *n. f.* [from *pedis*, Lat. *pediculus*, Fr.] The footstalk, that by which a leaf or fruit is fixed to the tree.  
The cause of the holding green, is the close and compact substance of their leaves and *pedicles*. *Bacon.*

**PEDICULARIS.** *adj.* [*pedicularis*, Lat. *pediculaire*, Fr.] Having the phytoria or lousy distemper. *Amfworth.*

**PEDIGREE.** *n. f.* [*perre* and *degre*, *Skinner*.] Genealogy; lineage; account of descent.  
I am no herald to enquire of men's *pedigrees*, it sufficeth me if I know their virtues. *Sidney.*  
You tell a *pedigree*  
Of threescore and two years, a silly time. *Shakespeare.*  
Alterations of surnames, which in former ages have been very common, have obscured the truth of our *pedigrees*, that it will be no little hard labour to deduce many of them. *Cam.*  
To the old heroes hence was giv'n  
A *pedigree* which reach'd to heav'n. *Waller.*  
The Jews preserved the *pedigrees* of their several tribes, with a more scrupulous exactness than any other nation. *Atter.*

**PEDIMENT.** *n. f.* [*pedis*, Lat.] In architecture, an ornament that crowns the ordonances, finishes the fronts of buildings, and serves as a decoration over gates, windows and niches: it is ordinarily of a triangular form, but sometimes makes the arch of a circle. *Diët.*

**PEDLER.** *n. f.* [a *petty dealer*; a contraction produced by frequent use.] One who travels the country with small commodities.  
All as a poor *pedler* he did wend,  
Bearing a truffle of trifles at his back;  
As bells and babies and glassies in his packe. *Spenser.*  
If you did but hear the *pedler* at the door, you would never dance again after a tabor and pipe. *Shakespeare.*  
He is wit's *pedler*, and retails his wares  
At wakes and wassals, meetings, markets, fairs. *Shakesp.*  
Had fly Ulysses at the sack  
Of Troy brought thee his *pedler's* pack. *Cleaveland.*  
A narrow education may beget among some of the clergy in possession such contempt for all innovators, as merchants have for *pedlers*. *Swift.*  
Atlas was so exceeding strong,  
He bore the skies upon his back,  
Just as a *pedler* does his pack. *Swift.*

**PEDLERY.** *adj.* [from *pedler*.] Wares sold by pedlers.  
The sufferings of those of my rank are trifles in comparison of what all those who travel with fish, poultry, *pedlery* ware to fall. *Swift.*

**PEDDLING.** *adj.* Petty dealing; such as pedlers have.  
So slight a pleasure I may part with, and find no mis; in this *peddling* profit I may resign, and 'twill be no breach in my estate. *Deacy of Piety.*

**PEDOBAPTISM.** *n. f.* [*παιδός* and *βάπτισμα*.] Infant baptism. *Diët.*

**PEDOBAPTIST.** *n. f.* [*παιδός* and *βαπτιστής*.] One that holds or practices infant baptism.

# PEEL

**TO PEEL.** *v. a.* [*pelers*, Fr. from *pellis*.]  
1. To decorticate; to flay.  
The skilful shepherd *peel'd* the certain wands, *Shakesp.*  
And stuck them up before the fulsome ewes.  
2. [From *piller*, to rob.] To plunder. According to analogy this should be written *pill*.  
Who once just and temp'rate conquer'd well,  
But govern ill the nations under yoke,  
*Peeling* their provinces, exhausted all  
But lust and rapine. *Milton's Paradise Regained.*  
Lord-like at ease, with arbitrary pow'r,  
To *peel* the chiefs, the people to devour;  
These, traitor, are thy talents. *Dryden.*

**PEEL.** *n. f.* [*pellis*, Latin; *pelure*, French.] The skin or thin rind of any thing.  
**PEEL.** *n. f.* [*pellet*, Fr.] A broad thin board with a long handle, used by bakers to put their bread in and out of the oven.

**PEELER.** *n. f.* [from *peel*.]  
1. One who strips or flays.  
2. A robber; a plunderer.  
Yet otes with her sucking a *peeler* is found,  
Both ill to the master and worse to some ground. *Tusser.*  
As 'tis a *peeler* of land, sow it upon lands that are rank. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

**TO PEEP.** *v. n.* [This word has no etymology, except that of *Skinner*, who derives it from *ophellen*, Dutch, to lift up; and of *Casaubon*, who derives it from *ορνιθολογία*, a spy; perhaps it may come from *pip*, *pipis*, Latin, to cry as young birds: when the chickens first broke the shell and cried, they were said to begin to *pip* or *peep*; and the word that expressed the act of crying, was by mistake applied to the act of appearing that was at the same time: this is offered till something better may be found.]  
1. To make the first appearance.  
She her gay painted plumes disordered,  
Seeing at last herself from danger rid,  
*Peeps* forth and soon renews her native pride. *Fa. Queen.*  
Your youth  
And the true blood, which *peeps* forth fairly through it,  
Do plainly give you out an unfain'd shepherd. *Shakesp.*  
England and France might through their amity,  
Breed him some prejudice; for from this league;  
*Peep'd* harms that menac'd him. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*  
I can see his pride.  
*Peep* through each part of him. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*  
The timorous maiden-blossoms on each bough  
*Peep* forth from their first blushes; so that now  
A thousand ruddy hopes smil'd in each bud;  
And flatter'd every greedy eye that stood. *Craheav.*  
With words not hers, and more than human found,  
She makes th' obedient ghosts *peep* trembling through the ground. *Roscommon.*  
Earth, but not at once, her visage rears,  
And *peeps* upon the seas from upper grounds. *Dryden.*  
Fair as the face of nature did appear,  
When flowers first *peep'd*, and trees did blossoms bear, }  
And winter had not yet deform'd th' inverted year. *Dryd.* }  
Printing and letters had just *peep'd* abroad in the world;  
and the restorers of learning wrote very eagerly against one another. *Atterbury.*  
Though but the very white end of the sprout *peep* out in the outward part of the couch, break it open, you will find the sprout of a greater largeness. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
So pleas'd at first the tow'ring Alps we try,  
And the first clouds and mountains seem the last;  
But those attain'd, we tremble to survey  
The growing labours of the lengthen'd way;  
Th' increasing prospect tires our wand'ring eyes,  
Hills *peep* o'er hills, and Alps on Alps arise. *Pope.*  
Most souls but *peep* out once an age,  
Dull sullen prisoners in the body's cage. *Pope.*  
2. To look slyly, closely or curiously; to look through any crevice.  
Who is the same, which at my window *peeps*. *Spenser.*  
Come thick night!  
That my keen knife see not the wound it makes;  
Nor heav'n *peep* through the blanket of the dark,  
To cry hold. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
Nature hath fram'd strange fellows in her time;  
Some that will evermore *peep* through their eyes,  
And laugh like parrots at a bag-piper. *Shakespeare.*  
A fool will *peep* in at the door. *Ecclus. xxi. 23.*  
The trembling leaves through which he play'd,  
Dappling the walk with light and shade,  
Like lattice-windows give the spy  
Room but to *peep* with half an eye. *Cleaveland.*  
All doors are shut, no servant *peeps* abroad,  
While others outward went on quick dispatch. *Dryden.*